FACT SHEET
Revised 04/07/2008

The President's National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee (NSTAC)

RECENT & ACTIVE ISSUES

- Emergency Communications and Interoperability
- Financial Services
- Information Sharing
- Infrastructure Protection
- Infrastructure Interdependencies
- National Coordinating Center
- Network Convergence
- Network Security
- NSTAC Outreach
- Resarch and Development
- Satellites
- Telecommunications Legislation and Regulation
- Trusted Access
- Wireless Security

PREVIOUSLY ADDRESSED ISSUES

- Commercial Network Survivability
- Commercial Satellite Survivability
- Common Channel Signaling
- Cyber Security and Crime
- Electromagnetic Pulse
- Enhanced Call Completion
- Information Assurance
- Information Systems Security
- Intelligent Networks
- International NS/EP Telecommunications
- Intrusion Detection
- National Information Infrastructure
- National Telecommunications Management Structure
- Network Security Information Exchange
- NS/EP Implications of Internet Technologies
- Physical Security
- Telecommunications Electric Service Priority
- Telecommunications Facility Protection
- Telecommunications Service Priority and Carrier Liability
- Telecommunications Systems Survivability
- Widespread Telecommunications Service Outages
- Wireless Priority Service
- Wireless Services
- Y2K Technology Problem

PURPOSE: The NSTAC provides industry-based analyses and recommendations to the President and the executive branch regarding policy and enhancements to national security and emergency preparedness (NS/EP) telecommunications.

BACKGROUND: President Ronald Reagan created the NSTAC by Executive Order (E.O.) 12382 in September 1982 to advise the President on matters regarding NS/EP telecommunications. Four issues provided impetus for the establishment of the NSTAC: (1) divestiture of AT&T; (2) increased Government reliance on commercial communications; (3) potential impact of new technologies on NS/EP telecommunications; and (4) growing importance of command, control, and communications to military and disaster response modernization. The NSTAC is composed of up to 30 Presidentially appointed industry leaders [usually chief executive officers (CEOs)] representing various elements of the telecommunications industry (see reverse). The NSTAC advises the President on a wide range of policy and technical issues related to telecommunications, information systems, information assurance, infrastructure protection, and other NS/EP concerns. The NSTAC meets quarterly via conference call and holds a meeting of Principals annually to report its activities and provide recommendations to the President.

LEADERSHIP: Several Federal officials assist the President in NS/EP telecommunications matters, including the Secretary of Homeland Security [designated as the Executive Agent, National Communications System (NCS)]; the Director, Office of Management and Budget; the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs; the Assistant to the President for Homeland Security; and the Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy. Industry executives hold the positions of NSTAC Chair and Vice Chair, which rotate among current members. At this time, both the NSTAC Chair and Vice Chair positions are vacant.

NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM: The President's NSTAC works cooperatively with the NCS, an interagency consortium of Federal departments and agencies that serves as a focal point for industry/Government NS/EP telecommunications planning. President John F. Kennedy issued a Presidential Memorandum establishing the NCS in 1963 as a result of critical communications delays during the Cuban Missile Crisis, and, in 1984, President Ronald Reagan expanded NCS authority through E.O. 12472. The current membership includes 23 Government departments and agencies. The NCS coordinates and plans NS/EP telecommunications to support response to any crisis or disaster as part of the Department of Homeland Security's National Protection and Programs Directorate.

NSTAC ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS: Many NSTAC activities are the genesis for technical reports, recommendations to the President, and NS/EP operational programs. For example, the National Coordinating Center (NCC), an industry/Government coordination center for day-to-day operational support to NS/EP telecommunications, began as an NSTAC recommendation. More recently, the NCC established an Information Sharing and Analysis Center (ISAC) function as part of its NS/EP telecommunications mission. The Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP) system, once an NSTAC issue, is also now an operational program. TSP is the regulatory, administrative, and operational authority that enables priority provisioning and restoration of telecommunications services for Federal, State, and local Government users, as well as nongovernmental users. NSTAC activities also led to the creation of an industry-based Network Security Information Exchange (NSIE), which meets regularly with a Government NSIE to address the threat posed to the public network when system vulnerabilities are exploited.

NSTAC MEMBERSHIP

Members as of 04/07/2008

NSTAC CHAIR
Mr. Edward A. Mueller
Chairman and CEO
Qwest Communications International, Inc.

NSTAC VICE CHAIR
Mr. John T. Stankey
Group President
Telecom Operations
AT&T, Inc.

Mr. James F. Albaugh
President and CEO
Boeing Integrated Defense Systems
The Boeing Company

Mr. Gregory Q. Brown
President and CEO
Motorola, Inc.

Mr. Daniel J. Carroll, Jr.
Board of Directors Member
Telcordia Technologies, Inc.

Mr. Kenneth C. Dahlberg
Chairman and CEO
SAIC, Inc.

Mr. Arthur E. Johnson
Senior Vice President
Corporate Strategic Development
Lockheed Martin Corp.

Mr. Clayton M. Jones
Chairman, President, and CEO
Rockwell Collins, Inc.

Mr. Scott Kriens
Chairman and CEO
Juniper Networks, Inc.

Mr. Howard L. Lance
Chairman, President, and CEO
Harris Corp.

Mr. Michael W. Laphen
Chairman, President, and CEO
Computer Sciences Corp. (CSC)

Mr. Thomas J. Lynch
CEO
Tyco Electronics Ltd.

Mr. Craig O. McCaw
Chairman
Teledesic Corp.

Mr. Walter B. McCormick, Jr.
President and CEO
United States Telecom Association (USTelecom)

Mr. Kyle E. McSlarrow
President and CEO
National Cable & Telecommunications Association

Mr. Craig J. Mundie
Chief Research and Strategy Officer
Microsoft Corp.

Mr. Donald J. Obert
Chief Technology Officer and Group Executive
Network Computing Group
Bank of America Corp.

Mr. William A. Roper
President and CEO
VeriSign, Inc.

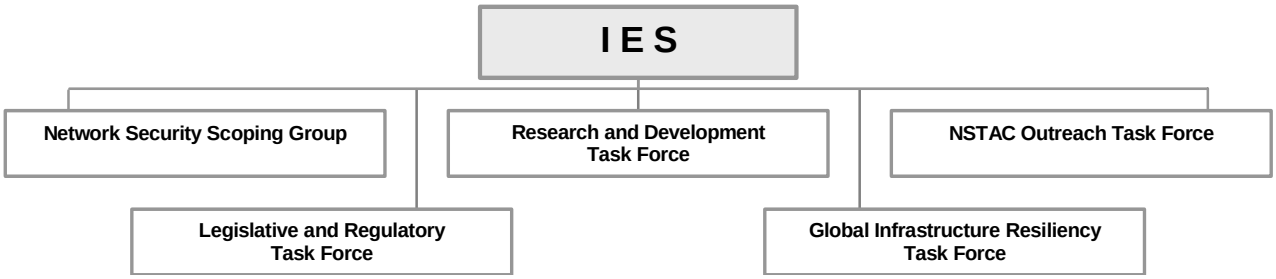
Mr. Ivan D. Seidenberg
Chairman and CEO
Verizon Communications, Inc.

Mr. William H. Swanson
Chairman and CEO
Raytheon Company

Mr. Joseph R. Wright, Jr.
Satellite Expert
Intelsat, Ltd.

Mr. Mike S. Zafirovski
President and CEO
Nortel Networks Corp.

NSTAC'S INDUSTRY EXECUTIVE SUBCOMMITTEE (IES): The primary working body of the NSTAC, chaired by the Deputy Manager, NCS, consists of representatives appointed by each NSTAC Principal. The current structure is depicted below.



The IES holds regular Meetings/Working Sessions to consider issues, analyses, or recommendations for presentation to the NSTAC. When an issue requires examination, the IES establishes an appropriate task force to address it. The Legislative and Regulatory Task Force examines legal and regulatory aspects of current NS/EP telecommunications issues. The NSTAC Outreach Task Force is seeking to raise the awareness of the NSTAC, solicit feedback and input on NSTAC products and outreach initiatives, and promote the adoption of NSTAC recommendations across the Federal Government, industry, and academic and research communities. The Research and Development (R&D) Task Force stimulates an exchange of ideas among representatives from industry, Government, and academia, including the coordination of R&D Exchange Workshops. The Network Security Scoping Group identifies possible network security issues for further examination, including core network security, design, and end-to-end cyber defense. The Global Infrastructure Resiliency Task Force examines possible network congestion and identifies traffic management practices. If necessary, the IES establishes a new task force to evaluate new issues or assigns the issue to an existing task force.